

[From the News and Courier.]

## THE RAILROAD FIGHT.

COLUMBIA, December 7.—At the meeting of the House railroad committee to-night Col. H. S. Hains, general manager of the Savannah, Florida and Western Railway of Georgia, addressed the joint committee at considerable length as to the system of railways in operation in Georgia, and the practical working of the commission in that State. When the commission was formed it was determined they should make rates for the railroad companies. These rates affected his road in one year \$146,000. He went before the commission and stated this fact, but it did not have any practical result. The roads made monthly reports to the commissioner and brought the matter to their attention in every way, and finally they made a modification in their rates. They fixed the passenger rate at 3 cents a mile. Lately they have made better cotton rates. Under the rates they first fixed the company lost about \$70,000. Before the commission advanced the rates would it not have been better to allow the railroads to fix their own rates? The rates which the commission fix should be such as to allow a fair return on the property. He said he was not opposed to a commission, but thought they should only be allowed to make rates when the rates made by the companies were unjust. If the State undertakes to regulate rates, of course the companies must abide by them, but it seemed to him that the State was bound to see that the roads did not suffer on account of too low rates. In reply to a question he stated that the railway laws in Georgia have not stimulated the building of new lines in that State. It is contemplated to build roads in Florida, but none in Georgia. Mr. Brawley asked if it was true, as had been stated in the newspapers, that since the formation of the commission there had been more building of roads in Georgia than at any previous time. and he replied that he did not think so.

Messrs. Brawley, Murray, Haskell and others asked various questions, which he readily answered. Col. Hains's statements were fair and conservative, and in contrast to the intemperate tone of some other railroad men.

Commissioner Bonham said he had been connected with the commission for five years, that he had recommended to the Legislature the adoption of the system in vogue in Illinois. Illinois has the greatest mileage of any State, and that system is still in operation there. He did not feel that he occupied the position of a partisan, but represented the interest of the railroads as well as the people of the State. In Georgia the Illinois system still prevails. He read extracts from the Georgia commissioners' reports, showing that the railroad law in that State had not been prejudicial to existing companies. He said that the superintendent of the Central Railroad had told him that his road made more money at three cents a mile for passenger fares than ever before. There are assertions made that the receipts have been reduced by the commissioners' rate, but they are not borne out by the

facts. He then quoted reports showing that in the month of October of this year the Clyde roads in South Carolina made by freight \$6,100 more than in the same month last year, and on passengers and freight combined \$2,600 more, and this notwithstanding the poor crops.

Governor Bonham was interrupted several times by President Haskell, of the Clyde roads in South Carolina.

Superintendent C. S. Gadsden said the commission had treated his road very liberally in the matter of freights, but not so in passenger rates. They were arbitrary in this regard. The only direction in which they expected to increase their earnings was from the phosphate industries near the line of their road. Passenger travel had not been stimulated by the reduction of rates by the commission.

President A. C. Haskell was then heard in behalf of his road. He said that Mr. Clyde had so completely covered the ground that all that remained for him to do was to give some figures to supplement what he had said. He then stated that the loss of the road in October was \$29,000 in freight and \$27,000 in passenger business. The loss in tonnage was a little less than 10 per cent. The loss on each ton hauled amounts to \$1.23. On every ton, he said, we actually loss \$1.13.

The committee was in session until a late hour and will have another session to-morrow night, when other railroad men will be heard from. So far the railroad men have had it all their own way.

### At The Old Home.

A man does love to go back and view the scenes among which he made his start, even though he may not remember much about them. "There, see there? That is the house your great-grandfather built." It was a swell house in those days evidently. Two stories; square-hewed logs, a porch all along the front. And the hands that built it, the voices that laughed and sang in it, the merry feet that danced on its oaken floors! Down through the broken roof and in the chinks of the tottering walls the sun shines to-day in great bars of gold, just for an instant, and then the clouds shut out the sunlight and the pitiless rain beats down upon the old old log house. The skies are gray, the trees are leafless, the hills are bare, and the rising wind moans and sighs. Drip, drip, drip the water falls from the broken eaves, like the monotonous tick of a clock that tells the lives of four generations. But for the moaning wind and the weeping water, now still, how quiet it all is. "My great-grandfather built it, then?" I wonder, if I wait here until the day is gone and the evening is gray and full of shadows, if he will come to the dismantled old door, and with ghostly silence and old-time courtesy bid his great-grandson welcome to the acres and manor of his ancestors.

"And the orchard on the hill, Robert, your grandfather planted. And he built the brick house on the other side of the road."

There is the orchard still. Year after year the fragrant blooms and the robins come together, but the boy who

planted the trees? The orchard bloom and the withered leaf of November are alike to him, and the song of the robin does not reach his ear.

"Your mother was born in that home."

Ah, my mother! She was a little girl here, then? All these hills are sacred with the touch of her pattering feet; down this winding glen she has plucked the wood violets and amaranths; and the birds in the swaying branches above her head have sung in wild joyousness to hear her laugh.—She was a school girl here—my mother. And how pretty she was then, with the tender curve of her lips and the full-orbed eyes of brown, soft and deep as the shadows of these hills; ah, she was beautiful when she was a school girl!

And that night I stand in my native village, and I look at the stars that come out in the blue sky, and listen to the low-voiced Monongahela singing at my feet; and in the stars I see the soft light of my mother's eyes, and listening to the song of the river I know where her dear voice caught the low, mellow music that in the long-ago lulled, with the old-time cradle songs, her little ones to sleep.—R. J. Burdette.

LINCOLN IN RICHMOND.—After Richmond had fallen into the hands of the Federal forces the Cabinet room of the Capitol was kept in exactly the same condition as when occupied by Jeff Davis. President Lincoln, it will be remembered, arrived the day after the surrender, and while walking through the building, inspecting the headquarters of the Confederacy, came to this room. Godfrey Weitzel, who was in charge, said; "Mr. President, this is the chair occupied by President Davis." and motioned the President to sit down. It was a trying moment, and those present expected to see a look of triumph in his face as he performed the act which signalized the complete downfall of the rebellion. Mr. Lincoln approached wearily, sat down without a word, and as his great head fell into his hands there was an oppressive silence. His mind seemed to be wandering back through the dark years of bloodshed and carnage. He saw visions of death, of broken family circles, loss of treasure, and the little mounds that dot the South under which sleep the Northern dead. He did not utter a word, but heaved a deep sigh, and even to this day the warriors who stood in his presence at the time tell the story with tears in their eyes.—Washington Letter.

—Old as the hills—The valleys between them.

## PAY UP AT ONCE.

Those indebted to us for Guano are notified that they must come forward and Settle at once, as we need and must have OUR MONEY. So do not delay.

ALSO,

Those due us on Store Account must settle up at once, so that we may be enabled to supply you again. A word to the wise is sufficient.

ROBINSON & WYATT.

Nov 16—tf

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Headquarters for Dress Goods, Black and Colored Silks, Black Cashmeres, Henrietta Cloths, Albatross Cloths, Bergaline Cloths, and in fact everything in

### BLACK DRESS GOODS.

An exquisite line of Walking Jackets, Cloaks, Dolmans, Paletots and

### CHILDREN'S CLOAKS.

The only place you will find Evitt & Bros'. Fine Shoes for Ladies, Misses and Children. They have numerous friends. It takes but one trial to make for them a customer. For

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Table Linens, Towels, Blankets, Napkins and Doilies in abundance.

Come and see us. Prices an inducement. Bargains to be had at

**J. H. MORGAN & BRO.,**

Wholesale and Retail Merchants,

GREENVILLE, S. C.

Nov 2—3m

## REMEMBER

One and All,

**T H A T**

**ROBINSON & WYATT**

EASLEY, S. C.,

Have just received their Fall and Winter stock of goods, consisting of

### DRY GOODS,

Notions, Clothing,

Hardware, Groceries

and Grocers Drugs.

Give us a call and we will be sure to sell to you if low prices are desired. Oct 12—12m

A WORD

## TO THE PUBLIC

FROM

**OWNBEY BROS.**

A visit to Ownbey Bros. will convince you that we can sell you GOODS as CHEAP as the CHEAPEST. Our stock is now complete, consisting of Flour, Bacon, Lard, Coffee, Sugar Canned Goods of every description, Plain and Fancy andies in endless variety, Hardware, Tin and Hollowware. A full line of

### STOVES

that compete with Greenville prices.

Our line of Tobacco and Segars is large and varied, and will be sold at prices that will induce all to buy. If you need anything in the shape of Farming implements, we keep it. We keep a full line of Clocks, and will sell them cheap. Jewelry to please all—both in style and price.

And please to remember that we pay the highest market price for produce. We have no house rent nor clerk hire to pay, and can sell you any thing we keep at the very lowest prices.

Very respectfully,

**OWNBEY BROS.**

Oct 12—12m

**J. T. NIX,**

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Nov 9—1y